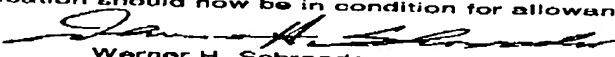


7. Claim 7 has been corrected and, therefore, claim 8 should also be allowable.

It is believed that all rejections and objections have been overcome by way of this amendment and this application should now be in condition for allowance.

  
Werner H. Schroeder

Reg. No. 36,387

Date of Signature: 06/07/03

1. (original) A three-dimensional protective pad being constructed as a laminate structure including a first top layer of a neoprene having a nylon skin adhered thereto, said top layer is stretchable in all directions a second layer of a non-stretch neoprene-ethylene-propylene-terpolymer and a styrene-butadiene rubber combination adhered under said first layer, a third layer of a viscoelastic polyurethane foam, adhered there under is a fourth layer bottom layer of a neoprene having a nylon skin adhered thereto which is stretchable in all directions, including a hardened polyethylene plate removably attached to an upper surface of said top layer.

2. (original) The protective pad of claim 1, wherein said nylon skin of the first top layer and the fourth bottom layer is a knitted material.

3. (original) The protective pad of claim 1 including female loop fasteners attached to an upper surface of said layer and male hook fasteners attached to an underside of said hardened polyethylene plate.

4. (original) The protective pad of claim 1 including a sectional cut made through said second and said third layers and material removed therefrom which cut is closed by stitching.

5. (original) The protective pad of claim 4, wherein said cut is diamond shaped.

6. (original) The protective pad of claim 4, wherein there are at least three sectional cuts in said second and said third layers.

7. (once amended) A three dimensional protective pad being constructed as a laminate structure including a first top layer of a neoprene having a nylon skin adhered thereto, said top layer is stretchable in all directions, a second layer of a non-stretch ethylene-propylene diene monomer and a styrene rubber combination adhered under said first layer, a third layer of a viscoelastic foam, adhered thereunder is a fourth bottom layer of a neoprene having a nylon skin adhered thereto which is stretchable in all directions, wherein said second layer [of non-stretchable neoprene] is larger in its overall dimension than the underlying urethane layer forming a lip there between and the first layer of the neoprene nylon skin combination is larger in its overall dimension than said second layer to thereby leave excess material and wherein said excess material is glued over said lip and to an edge of said urethane layer.

8. (original) The protective pad of claim 7, wherein said fourth layer of said neoprene/nylon skin combination which is stretchable in all directions is larger in its overall dimension than said urethane layer and is glued over the excess material of said first layer.

**Marked-up Version of amended paragraph 6 on Page 4**

This top layer is made by the Rubatex Corp. in Bedford, VA and it is sold under the stock No. ~~R-423-R~~ R-423-N. Their specification describe the above noted characteristics.

## Marked-up Version of Paragraph 6 on Page 5

8 is a neoprene/rubber non stretch layer which lessens trauma by dampening the force applied to the structure. Specifically, this second layer consists of a non-stretch ethylene propylene diene monomer and a styrene rubber combination.

## Amended Version of Claim 7

7. (once amended) A three dimensional protective pad being constructed as a laminate structure including a first top layer of a neoprene having a nylon skin adhered thereto, said top layer is stretchable in all directions, a second layer of a non-stretch ethylene-propylene diene monomer and a styrene rubber combination adhered under said first layer, a third layer of a viscoelastic foam, adhered there under is a fourth bottom layer of a neoprene having a nylon skin adhered thereto which is stretchable in all directions, wherein said second layer [~~of non-stretchable neoprene~~] is larger in its overall dimension than the underlying urethane layer forming a lip there between and the first layer of the neoprene nylon skin combination is larger in its overall dimension than said second layer to thereby leave excess material and wherein said excess material is glued over said lip and to an edge of said urethane layer.